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Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15
CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 OMB-01 ARAE-00
PRS-01 /053 W
----------060257 231619Z /47
P 231444Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3042

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: MARR, US, UK, AC

SUBJ: ANTIGUA OPPOSITION LEADER ON BASE NEGOTIATIONS

UNCLASSIFIED

1. LEADER OF THE ANTIGUA OPPOSITION PROGRESSIVE LABOUR MOVE-
MEN, GEORGE WALTER, TOLD A PUBLIC MEETING IN ST.JOHN'S
ON JUNE 20 THAT IF THE OPPOSITION WAS NOT REPRESENTED AT THE
BASE RENEWAL NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE USG, IT WOULD NOT FEEL BOUND
TO HONOR ANY AGREEMENT REACHED.

2. WALTER'S CITICISM OF THE GOVT OF PREMIER VERE BIRD,
SR., IN THE NEGOTIATIONS, HOWEVER, WAS THAT BIRD AND HIS
RULING ANTIGUA LABOUR PARTY WERE TRYING "TO MILK MILLIONS OF
DOLLARS FROM THE U.S." AND THAT SUCH EXCESSIVE
PRESSURE MIGHT LEAD TO A CLOSING OF THE BASES AND A LOSS
OF JOBS FOR ANTIGUANS. WALTER ALSO ADDED THAT THE BASES WERE
NOT ONLY IN THE INTERESTS OF THE US BUT WERE ALSO FOR ANTIGUA'S
SAFETY. END UNCLASSIFIED, BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE.

3. COMMENT: AT FIRST GLANCE, WALTER'S WARNING THAT THE OPPOSI-
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TION WILL NOT NECESSARILY BE BOUND BY ANY AGREEMENT
REACHED BETWEEN THE USG AND THE BIRD GOVT WOULD
SEEM TO BE A CAUSE FOR CONCERN. HOWEVER, HIS ADDITIONALL
STATEMENTS THAT BIRD'S TOUGHNESS MAY BE ENDANGERING THE
FUTURE OF THE BASES INDICATES THE OPPOSITION REMAINS
PRO-BASE RENEWAL AND WILL HAVE NO SERIOUS ARGUMENT WITH
FINAL LEASE ARRANGEMENTS. IN ADDITION, THE BIRD

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GOVT HOLDS AN 11 TO 6 ADVANTAGE IN THE ANTIGUAN
HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY AND IS NOT CONSTITUTIONALLY REQUIRED
TO FACE THE ELECTORATE AGAIN UNTIL FEBRUARY 1981. END
COMMENT.
SIMMS

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NNN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: OPPOSITION PARTIES, POLITICAL LEADERS, SPEECHES, MILITARY BASE AGREEMENTS, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 23-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BRIDGE01466
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Format: TEL
From: BRIDGETOWN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07-Apr-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2060467
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ANTIGUA OPPOSITION LEADER ON BASE NEGOTIATIONS UNCLASSIFIED
TAGS: MARR, US, UK, AC, (WALTER, GEORGE)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/565e6078-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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